

Session 1.6 : Migration and Feminism: Issues, Challenges and Paradoxes

Sponsors: Women and Gender Institute of Miriam College (WAGI-MC), Wellesley Centers for Women, Wellesley College (WCW), the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM)

Schedule: 25 September/ 1:00-3:00pm/ Samar Function Room

Session Abstract

Migration is both a gendered and gendering process . Gender permeates migration processes, policies, institutions and practices. These in turn affect male and female migrants differently in ways that impact on their enjoyment of rights and entitlements in the countries of destinations.

The workshop will explore an examination of the ways in which migration processes which are integral to globalization processes simultaneously challenges and reinforces patriarchy in its multiple forms when women decide to migrate for work and are able to earn for their families. It will examine how gender hierarchies are played out as they intersect with race, class , ethnicity and nationality factors in the lives of migrant and immigrant women

Session Objectives

1. To provide a venue for exchange of ideas and analyses on the impact of migration on feminist theory and praxis;
2. To critically examine how women and men are differently affected by migration processes, policies and institutions particularly in the enjoyment of rights and entitlements in their destination countries; and
3. To recommend measures to strengthen the enabling mechanisms and institutions that empower women migrants so that they may fully enjoy equal benefits and rights as migrants and/or immigrants.